“We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
Unit Name: Citizenship

6.1.4.A.5 Distinguish the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of the national government.

6.1.4.A.7 Explain how the United States functions as a representative democracy, and describe the roles of elected representatives and how they interact with citizens at local, state, and national levels.

6.1.4.A.8 Compare and contrast how government functions at the community, county, state, and national levels, the services provided, and the impact of policy decisions made at each level.

Essential Questions

- What is citizenship?
- How do people become citizens of the U.S.?
- What makes a good citizen?
- What do good citizens do?
- How do citizens solve problems?
- What rights do U.S. citizens have?
- What responsibilities do U.S. citizens have?
- Why do people from other countries want to become United States citizens?
- Why is civics important to citizenship?
- Can citizens make positive change in their community?
- What role does the government have to protect its citizens?

Enduring Understandings

- Citizenship is a simple term that applies to duties that people should obey when respecting our community.
- Good citizens make the right decisions, serve in their community, and stay out of trouble.
- Some people are born citizens, while others have to take an immigration test.
- Citizens have rights and responsibilities they must commit to do that society runs smoothly and successfully.
- United States citizens must follow the rules of the community, the state, and the country.
- For hundreds of years, immigrants have become citizens of the United States in search of a more successful life.

“We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
"We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
### Unit Name: Citizenship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Targets</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **A.** Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. | Presentational Skills (PS)  
**●** Use evidence to support an idea in a written and/or oral format. |
| **B.** Tall Tales are part of our nation’s oral history. We can make many connections between such tall tales and events in history. Among these are John Henry and the expansion of the railroads and Paul Bunyon and the timber industry. Tall tales were stories told and passed down from generation to generation. | Preview lesson vocabulary. Preview pictures, headings, charts, captions, etc. before reading. |
| **C.** Understand that Good citizenship includes a belief in justice, equality, and responsibility for the common good. | Create a K-W-L Chart on the branches of government. Ask: What are some rights you have as a citizen of the United States? What are some responsibilities that United States citizens have? |
| **D.** Evaluate the necessity and function of a system of laws to govern the citizens of a community. | Social Studies Journal/Notebook- questions to monitor, clarify and evaluate: The single most important thing I learned was… |
| **E.** Explain how citizens pay taxes to finance local, state, and federal government services. | Something that confused me or that I did not understand was… |
| **F.** Explain the three branches of government. | What surprised me the most was… I would like to know more about… Sources I can use to find answers to my questions… The part that made the greatest impact on me was… |
| **G.** Identify and explain the importance of acts of civic responsibility, including obeying laws and voting. | Use context clues to determine the meaning of unknown words. Reread, read-on, and use prior knowledge of words to figure out meanings of unknown words. Discuss bold-faced words and where to find their definitions (glossary). |
| **H.** Analyze symbols of national pride | Horizons TE p. 92 Levels of Government diagram (Visual learning). Be sure to answer caption questions. TE p. 108-109- Read a Table |
| **I.** Know and understand 36 civics questions from US immigration test | |

“We are a nation of communities … like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
Unit Name: Citizenship

J. Students will discover what it is to be a citizen in their community and what an “active citizen” is.
K. Students will problem solve to resolve problems/issues.

Symbols of National Pride: our flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, the Liberty Bell, bald eagle, White House, etc. Uncle Sam and Old Glory by Delno C. West and Jean M. West provide a look at 15 different American symbols

After reviewing Chapter 1 have students list what they believe make up a “classroom community”. Compare & contrast a ”classroom community” and “their community”.

Use Time for Kids articles from the entire year to identify active citizens in the United States and across the world. Have student work in groups to read at least one article and communicate/ share why the person/people in the article are active citizens.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citizenship Test Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kindergarten</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. In what month do we vote for our president? #27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. What is the name of the president now? #28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. How old do citizens have to be to vote for the president? #54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Who was the first president? #70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. When do we celebrate Independence Day? #99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Where is the Statue of Liberty? #95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st Grade</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. What is freedom of religion? #10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. We elect a President for how many years? #26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. What is one responsibility that is only for United States citizens? #49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. What do we show loyalty to when we say the Pledge of Allegiance? #52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Who is the Father of Our Country? #69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
## Unit Name: Citizenship

### 2nd Grade
1. What is the capital of your state? #44
2. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? #62
3. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted? #63
4. What is one thing Benjamin Franklin is famous for? #68
5. What was one important thing that Abraham Lincoln did? #75
6. What did Martin Luther King, Jr. do? #85
7. What major event happened on September 11, 2001, in the United States? #86
8. What ocean is on the West Coast of the United States? #89
9. Name one state that borders Canada? #92
10. Why does the flag have 13 stripes? #96

### 3rd Grade
1. What is one reason colonists came to America? #58
2. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived? #59
3. There were 13 original states. Name three. #64
4. What happened at the Constitutional Convention? #65
5. When was the Constitution written? #66
6. What did Susan B. Anthony do? #77
7. What movement tried to end racial discrimination? #84
8. Name one American Indian tribe in the United States? #87
9. Name one of the longest rivers in the United States? #88
10. Name one state that borders Mexico. #93

### Resources
- Harcourt Horizons (Textbook) – Chapters 3-4
- BrainPop and BrainPop Jr. (videos, worksheets, quizzes) on citizenship
- Time for Kids – articles on citizenship
- *Duck for President* (Betsy Cronin)
- *Vote* (Eileen Christelow)
- *So You Want to be President?* (Judith St. George)
- Historical Documents – explore primary and secondary sources that represent the United States, New Jersey, that symbolize the American Dream, citizenship, honor, national pride, and unity.
- United States Immigration Test

“We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
Unit Name: Citizenship

**Assessments Required:**
- Service Learning Project: Students will identify actions that are unfair or discriminatory, such as bullying, and propose solutions to address such items. Students will investigate, plan, implement, reflect, and demonstrate their service learning project. Rubric is provided.
- Interactive notebook: Students will reflect on learning throughout the school year. (rubric is provided)
- Opinion Essay: “Think about all of the symbols and documents you researched and learned about during the citizenship unit. What symbol or document most represents the United States to you? Give at least three supporting details in your answer.” (basic essay rubric provided)

**Additional / Optional:**
- Citizenship Quiz (K-3 Citizenship Questions – 34 Questions)
- Explanatory Essay: “More people come to the United States to live than any other country. Explain why the United States is called the *land of opportunity*?”
- Presentation: in cooperative groups, create a presentation that would teach younger students about the Bill of Rights.
- Project: Good Citizen Collage – informational text (title, captions, illustrations, column writing “what a good citizen means to me”)
- BrainPop quizzes

**Modifications**

Additional time as needed, modified tests, modified assignments, small group instruction & support, test review, study guide, modify homework/class work

“We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky.” President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.
"We are a nation of communities ... like a thousand points of light in a broad and peaceful sky." President George H. W. Bush, in a speech on August 18, 1988.